

# 2013 Needs Assessment for Russell County

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Judge David Johnson  
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Barbara Harden  
Richard Sony  
Rev. Charlie Sanders  
Mattie Arrington  
James Sellars  
Blenda Copeland  
Ray Smith, PCPD  
Peggy Martin, Chair RC Comm.  
Alfonzo Smith  
Tommy Powell  
Lynn Hart  
Wanda Shaffer

Ruth Ann Powers  
Connie King  
Thomas Scharf  
Larry DiChiara, PCBOE  
Trena Lowe  
Kimberly Waugh  
Marie Slayton  
Debra Howell  
Jean Spicer  
Nathan Walters  
Brenda Denard  
Mic Cole  
Steve Pace  
Johnny Robinson  
Owen Duke  
Eddie Lowe, Mayor

Mike Green, RCBOE  
Ricky Smith  
Debra Love  
Brother James Everhart  
Pastor Mary Hudson  
Heath Taylor, RCSD  
Harold Jackson  
Derrick Bowling

## Accomplishments

1. Increased membership
2. Regular meetings sponsored at different locations in the community
3. More participation of Regional Coordinators
4. Time has been allowed in the agenda for each agency to give brief report of their current happenings
5. Dependency Drug Court established and operating successfully
6. Russell County CPC has applied for PATS and STOP program grants
7. Drug Court has allowed for usage as a community resource to reduce costs and routinely screen DHR dependency cases and see timely results regardless of funding issues
8. Two pools opened in the city and four splash pads opened.

# 2013 Needs Assessment for Russell County

## First Priority

### Need related to children of this county

Continue to decrease high school dropout rate in Russell County and Phenix City

| Existing resources available to help meet this need include:  | Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:  |
|---|--|
| Juvenile Drug Court<br>Green Door Tutoring<br>Truancy Program through RC & PC schools<br>CHINS & TEARS tutoring program<br>School System involvement with CPC<br>DHR assessing truancy issues with children under the age of 12<br>Civic Clubs that are willing to work with children and CPC<br>Tutorial Programs<br>Special Delivery Programs<br>Children & Family Connection<br>New Beginnings for teen pregnancy<br>Work with & involve faith based organizations | Continue the development of a "Service Providers Coalition"<br>Program for students who have been expelled or suspended to have education and accountability<br>State continued funding for alternative schools<br>Better identification of those in the community who can provide services to teens in jeopardy<br>CPC apply for PATS for centralized service provision<br>CPC apply for STOP for suspended youth to receive education/support<br>Teen University is available but lacks sufficient funding for materials |

### Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. Continue utilizing DHR to assess concerns for children under 12\_who are experiencing truancy issues
2. Support collaboration with CVCC and Troy State University for additional assistance for youth educational programs.
3. Request speakers from recent CPC Conferences and Workshops at CPC meetings
4. Improve collaboration and communication among service providers & encourage providers to join/support the coalition
5. Children being taught to accept responsibility for their education

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## Second Priority

### Need related to children of this county

Positive role models for children in the communities of Russell County.

| <b>Existing resources available to help meet this need include:</b>   | <b>Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:</b>  |
|---|---|
| Teen University<br>Children & Family Connection (FAST)<br>Kappa Alpha PSI and other fraternities & sororities<br>Green Door<br>Alumni Clubs<br>Retired Teachers | More mentors identified in community to serve youth and deter them from dropping out of school and to encourage lives without crime, drugs and sexual promiscuity.<br>Military connection with Ft. Benning<br>Faith Based Organizations |

### Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. Pastors recruited to involve their congregations to seek volunteers for mentoring. We will work through Ministerial Associations.
2. CPC members will seek to identify additional mentors.
3. CPC will seek to use PSA through local media and through social media.
4. CPC members will work with sorority and fraternity affiliations to seek and identify mentors

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## Third Priority

### Need related to children of this county

Lack of wholesome organized activities for youth.

| <b>Existing resources available to help meet this need include:</b>  | <b>Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:</b>                         |
|--|--|
| Chattahoochee Valley Fair<br>Amphitheatre for free concerts<br>Boy & Girl Scouts<br>Parks & Recreation Centers<br>Library<br>Organized Sports<br>Teen University<br>Wrestling/skating rink<br>City Pools & Splash pads | Transportation<br>More contact and recruitment of concerned citizens<br>More advertisement |

### Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. CPC members becoming more involved in the community.
2. Promote Interagency Collaboration
3. Include youth members to CPC.
4. Interaction with other agency communications